Private Sector Steel Plants in Orissa

*176. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Private Sector companies have expressed their keenness to set up steel plants in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of steel plants proposed to be set up by them;

(d) the places identified for the establishment of steel plants by Private Sector; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e) the State Government of Orissa have intimated that they have received 13 proposals for setting up of iron and steel projects in their state. Details of these projects are given below:—

S.No.	Name of the Unit	Location	Capacity
			(million tonnes)
1.	Mideast Integrated Steel Ltd.	Integrated Industrial Complex at Duburi, Distt. Jaipur.	Phase-I:— 0.5 (pig iron) Phase-II:— 0.5 (steel)
2.	Bhushan Steel & Strips Ltd.	-do-	Phase-I:— 1.20 (steel) Phase-II:— 3.0 (steel)
3.	Brahmani Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	-do-	Phase-I:— 0.5 (steel) Phase-II:— 1.0 (steel)
4.	Orind Steels Ltd.	Integrated Industrial Complex at Duburi, Distt. Jaipur.	0.5 (CR Steel)
5.	Mesco Kalinga Steel Ltd.	-do-	Phase-I:— 2.25 (steel) Phase-II:— 4.5 (steel)
6.	Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd.	-do-	Phase-I:— 1.0 (steel) Phase-II:— 2.50 (steel)
7.	Indian Seamless Steels & Alloys Ltd.	-do-	Phase-I:— 1.25 (steel) Phase-II:— 5.0 (steel)
8.	Asian Alloys Ltd.	Nayagarh Distt.Keonjhar	Phase-I:— 0.5 (steel) Phase-II:— 1.0 (steel)
9.	Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	Gopalpur Distt.Ganjam	Phase-I & II:— 2.50 (steel)
10.	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.	-do-	2.60 (steel)

S.No.	Name of the Unit	Location	Capacity
			(million tonnes)
11.	Ganapati Exports Ltd.	Duburi Daitari area	5.0 (steel)
12.	National Steel Industries Ltd.	Nayagarh Distt. Keonjhar	0.5 (steel)
13.	Jindal Strips Ltd.	Dhenkanal Distt. Angul	0.4-0.5 (steel)

Coin Blanking Plant

*177. SHRI KRISHANA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Coin Blanking Plant of Salem Steel on verge of closure" as reported in 'Economic Times' of 1st July, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Coin Blanking Plant of Salem Steel is on the verge of collapse; and

(d) the factors responsible for this and the concrete steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) to (d) The installed capacity of blanking line of Salem Steel Plant (SSP), Salem is 3,000 tonnes per annum. SSP has recently received a letter of intent from India Govt. Mint, Noida, for procurement of 3,347.5 MT of Stainless Steel Coin Blanks in 1995-96.

Disease in Coconut Plantation

*178. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether root-wilt disease in coconut plantations is severely affecting the coconut production;

(b) whetehr ICAR has studied this phenomena;

(c) whether this disease was foreign to India;

(d) the manner in which this disease spread so rapidly and widely all over India;

(e) whether ICAR did not succeed in controling it; and

(f) what fresh measures are proposed to stop the spread of root-wilt disease?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BAL RAM JAKHAR):

(a)Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir, it is native to India.

(d) This root wilt disease is a slow debilitating disease and is confined to Kerala State and that mostly too in eight southern districts. In the northern Kerala and bordering districts in Tamil Nadu, the disease occuerence is sporadic. Two insect vectors viz., lace wing bug and plant hopper are reported to be involved in transmitting the disease from the affected palm to adjacent palms. Seedlings taken from the diseased tract also help in spreading the disease in new areas. The spread of the disease is, however, slow.

(e) Since the disease is caused by Mycoplasma like Organisms, a complete control of disease is not possible. Howover, the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Regional Station, Kayangulam, of the ICAR, has developed a two pronged approach viz. (1) Containing the disease and preventing the further spread by periodical survey and eradication of all diseased palms in northern Kerala and Tamil Nadu; (2) Management of root wilt affected gardens with a set of agronomic practices and field sanitation for getting higher yield.

(f) While containing the disease by eradication is being continued in the mildly affected areas, research on resistance breeding has been strengthened. Healthy palms identified in the midst of severely affected